

**Artist Statement**  
**"Home: I Wish I Were There"**  
**Leila Holtsman**

This work is a series of 30 works in steel, print and resin. They record the memories I gather while I drive home along Kenilworth Avenue in Garrett Park. They help me to make my house a home.

The steel represents the immutable part of the memories. The size of the steel panel evokes a postcard, which for me is a succinct, visual memory of an event or person. The transferred print is the changeable part of the visual experience. The resin coating represents the images that I hold in my mind when I think of my home. "The Poetics of Space" inspired the white gesso shapes (circle, triangle or square.) "...A house is a geometrical object. Its prime reality is visible and tangible, made of well-hewn solids and well fitted framework."

For ten of my first thirteen years of life, I moved eight times. Moving was out of my control as a child. As an adult whose opinion helps to determine where I live, I wonder, "What does it mean to have a home?" "Where is home?" "What is home?" I am interviewing 100 people to help me to answer this question. Some of them are my Garrett Park neighbors. Periodically during my project, I stop and take inventory of what I've learned. This show is one of those moments.

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Leila Holtsman  
Process  
July 2013

My materials are: steel, gesso, print and resin.

I prepare the steel with an angle grinder, removing a layer of grease to expose the shiny steel surface.

This lightening helps the print to stand out more clearly.

Applying gesso to the steel allows me to focus the viewer's eye.

I take hundreds of pictures so that I can choose the 30 presented here.

Using a wooden tool, I transfer an image that I've taken to the steel.

Leveling the steel panel, lastly I apply a thick layer of resin to seal the work.